

## THE LEGISLATURE.

## THE NEWBORN FAIR BREAKS IN UPON THE DAY'S WORK.

Only Forty-Five Members of the House Present—None But Uncontested Bills Introduced—A Large Number of Bills Introduced—To Change Time of Holding Courts in the Seventh District—To Apply the "Doyle Measurement" of Logs to New Hanover County.

(Special to The Messenger.)

## SENATE.

Raleigh, N. C., February 24.—Bills and resolutions were introduced as follows:

By Senator Hardison, supplemental to a bill already passed, relating to the oyster industry.

By Senator Person, to supply public laws to all justices of the peace.

By Senator Wakefield, to incorporate the North Carolina Land and Timber Company.

By Senator Moye, to require a license to carry concealed weapons.

Senator Scales lodged a motion to reconsider the vote by which the bill relating to fishing with nets and seines in Neuse river passed.

The following bills passed:

To make water courses twenty feet wide and eight feet deep, lawful fence.

To incorporate the Hope Fire Company in the town of Greenville.

To extend the time to compromise, commute and settle the state debt.

For relief of the Croatan normal school in Robeson.

To amend the charter of Pollockville.

To amend the act of 1895, relating to commissioners of Jones county.

To repeal the charter of Margaretville, Northampton county.

To regulate official bonds in Edgecombe county.

To place the registers of deeds' bond at \$5,000.

To amend the charter of Selma, allowing the town to tax druggists for selling liquor.

## AFTERNOON SESSION.

The senate re-assembled at 4 o'clock p. m. Bills passed as follows:

To amend the charter of Rocky Mount.

To abolish the circuit criminal court of Robeson.

To amend the Code, by adding that any justice of the peace failing to keep a record of his criminal and civil trials shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

To amend the act ratified yesterday, striking out Onslow and Pender counties.

By leave Senator Person introduced a bill to assist in the maintenance of Pigford sanitarium for the treatment of negro consumptives.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

There were only forty-five members present, others being at the Newbern fair.

The following bills were introduced:

By Mr. Ward, to reduce the pay of legislators to \$3 per day.

By Mr. Young, to make a \$4,000 appropriation (additional) out of the general fund for seven colored state normal schools.

Bills passed as follows:

To provide cotton seed weathers for Goldsboro.

To allow Cumberland county to fund its bonded debt.

To provide cotton weaver for Fremont and Mt. Olive.

To provide that in Beaufort, Columbus and Lenoir counties the commissioners "may" instead of "shall" publish county financial statements.

To change the court house of Gaston county from Dallas to Gastonia.

To amend the charter of the Dennis Simmons Lumber Company.

To prohibit obstructions in Beaver creek, Jones county.

To amend the charter of the Moore County Railway by allowing townships which vote aid to the road to issue 5 per cent. bonds, running thirty years, the county commissioners to levy a tax to meet the interest.

To prohibit taking of claims from the waters of Brunswick county between April 15th and November 15th.

To work Northampton's roads by taxation.

To amend the charter of Laurinburg.

To allow Lumberton to issue \$20,000 in bonds for water works, street improvements, etc.

To work Bladen county's roads by taxation.

To allow the administrators of the late Sheriff Murrill, of Onslow, to collect arrears of taxes.

To allow the treasurer of Bladen county to pay over to the board of election at the last election \$1.50 per day and messengers \$1 per day and 5 cents mileage one way.

A resolution, that no bills be introduced on or after March 1st.

To add Beaufort, New Hanover, Bladen, Henderson, Sampson, Perquimans, Bertie and Washington to chapter 173, act of 1895, this being the law which requires what is known as the "Doyle measurement" of logs.

To amend the law regarding issues of fact in trials.

To provide for inspection of coal mines and the safety of miners therein.

To create a board of control of convicts and roads in Mecklenburg county.

To allow the Wilmington street railway to consolidate with any railway entering that city.

Mr. Sutton, of Cumberland, offered a substitute to Mr. Dockery's bill changing the time of holding the seventh district courts and said it was satisfactory to Mr. Dockery. The act goes into effect July 1st next. A substitute was adopted with an amendment separating the civil terms in Anson.

Mr. Cook, by leave, introduced a bill to require the constables of the United States and North Carolina to be read in all public schools.

The bill to turn stock loose in Moseley Hall township, Lenoir county, was tabled. Mr. Hauser alone voting against the motion to table.

## NIGHT SESSION.

The house met at 7:30 o'clock.

Mr. Dockery introduced a resolution to allow laborers of the house 50 cents a day extra, saying there were this session only eleven, while two years ago there were eighteen. It was adopted.

Bills passed as follows:

To make it unlawful for any person, not a citizen of this state, to hunt or shoot any wild fowl in Currituck county from any box, battery or float of any kind.

To allow the people of Tyrrell county to vote for a special school tax in townships.

To require all public school teachers to read aloud to pupils twice during each session and of North Carolina.

To allow Sampson county to borrow money, issue bonds and levy a special tax.

To amend the Code as to indictments for cruelty to animals so as to give justices of the peace jurisdiction.

To allow the commissioners of Max-

ton to increase tax levy from 50 cents to \$1.

To enable Anson county to complete its jail.

To allow Lenoir county to levy a special tax.

The bill to charter the Winston-Salem Southbound railway came up with favorable report.

Lieutenant Governor Reynolds, one of the incorporators, was present and expressed a desire for the bill to come up.

Mr. McCrary declared that the road was in direct competition with the North Carolina railway in which the state had so great interest; that it would compete at Lexington or at Salisbury; that the charter gave it a right to run to Charlotte. He said the people of Davidson did not want the road chartered. He moved to table the bill.

Mr. Sutton, of Cumberland, said he favored the bill. He said he thought the matter ought to go over under today's agreement that no bill to which there was opposition was to be discussed.

Mr. Walters said it was a serious and grave matter and had been discussed for ten years past.

Mr. Sutton moved that the bill be passed over until the Newbern excursionists returned. The motion prevailed.

By leave Mr. Person of Wayne, introduced a bill to amend chapter 51, acts of 1895, fixing the maximum schedule of charges for selling leaf tobacco by all warehousemen in the state as follows:

"In section 1, line 4, strike out 15 and insert 5; in line 5 strike out 25 and insert 10; in line 6 strike out 10 and insert 5 and in line 8 strike out 10 and insert 5."

## SENATE.

(Special to The Messenger.)

Raleigh, N. C., February 25.—The following bills were introduced:

By Senator Smathers, to amend section 110 of the Code as follows: "No clerk or any person connected in law business with him shall as counsel or attorney-at-law draft any deed, bond or other instrument of writing upon which he may be required to pass in or out of the state, or in the same and he shall not give legal construction to any such paper except in the discharge of his official duty."

By Senator Geddle, to regulate the sale of liquor in Cumberland and to establish a dispensary.

By Senator Justice, to establish a dispensary for Rutherfordton; also to aid in the construction of the Winston-Salem Southbound railroad.

By Senator Atwater, to amend chapter 280, laws of 1895, relating to all of section 2 after the word "misdemeanor" in line 2.

By Senator Walker, to promote the dairy interest of the state.

By Senator Grant, to prescribe the terms upon which foreign roads may become incorporated in this state and for other purposes. (This bill, appears in full in another column.)

The following bills passed:

To amend the acts incorporating Morven.

To establish a graded school at Greenville.

To incorporate Saratoga, Wilson county.

To aid in construction of Winston-Salem Southbound railroad. This bill requires the governor to furnish surveyors, also to furnish convicts to gradetheroad, the state to take stock in the road in payment for the labor of convicts and whatever money the state shall expend in its construction.

To protect creditors and innocent purchasers of personal property mortgaged in other states.

To regulate the appointment of cotton weathers for Raleigh.

To authorize the auditor to draw a warrant on the state treasurer for \$5 extra for each page of the general assembly.

To allow certain grandchildren of ex-slaves to inherit property.

Senator Butler introduced a bill to protect employees, passengers and shippers and to elect railroad commissioners by the vote of the people.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The senate re-assembled at 4:30 o'clock.

The special order was taken up, being the bill to revive and improve the public school system of North Carolina.

The gist of the bill is that the state board of education shall appoint biennially a state board of examiners, who shall consist of three professional school teachers, and the state superintendent of public instruction, shall be ex-officio chairman of said board. The latter shall prepare and recommend to the public school eachers of the state a course of reading and professional study for teachers and such outlines of methods of teaching and school government as may be helpful in school room work. They shall have power to grant first grade life certificates which shall be renewed every five years. Meetings of the state board of examiners shall be held at the call of the governor. The office of county examiner is hereby abolished, to take effect the first Monday in next July. Third grade teachers' certificates are abolished. The provisions of the bill shall not apply to city public school systems now operating under special laws or charters.

Senator Butler, promoter of the measure, spoke in favor of the bill, saying he had spent a good deal of time in perfecting it, that it had not been tried, but that he had consulted the school systems of different states and that he had advice from a good many prominent educators and that he believed the bill would be of great benefit to the state.

On motion of Senator Butler the rules were suspended and the bill was placed on its final reading.

Senator Grant favored the bill, as it was a good measure. The educational interest of North Carolina was advancing and school laws had to be enacted to meet the requirements of advanced education.

Amendments were offered excepting the counties of Surry, Stokes, Rowan and Yadkin.

Senator Grant hoped the senators would not except their counties because it would be a bad thing for them if they did. The state had no good schools unless it had good school system.

The amendments were all lost and the bill passed its third reading.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The following bills were introduced:

By Mr. Hauser, to provide for election of railway commissioners by the people and to give the commission the right to prevent the reduction of wages of any railway employee whose annual wages are less than \$2,000, the penalty being \$200 for each case; also providing that no railway shall charge over 2 1/2 cents per mile for first class and 2 cents for second class fares, between any two points in this state, under penalty of \$100, this to apply to roads classed as "standard" by the railway commission.

By Mr. Duffy, to protect turpentine workers by imposing a fine of \$50 or imprisonment for thirty days, or both, on any person who adulterates or spoils of turpentine with kerosene oil.

Mr. Lusk then asked Mr. Bryan where his party was on this question, if it had not tabooed him and kicked him out of its caucus, thus causing a big laugh at Mr. Bryan's expense. (Bryan is a populist bolter.) Mr. Lusk

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The bill to charter the Winston-Salem Southbound railroad was taken up.

Mr. McCrary's amendment to force it to go through the town of Lexington was overwhelmingly voted down and the bill passed its second reading.

Bills passed as follows:

To amend the charter of the North Carolina Dairyman's Association so as to allow it to offer premiums, the state to give it \$500 annually.

To change the date of holding the superior courts of Craven county.

To amend the law regarding restoration to citizenship so the petitioner can file his petition in the county in which he was convicted or one in which he resides.

The bill to appropriate \$5,000 to the "Rolling Exposition" or "North Carolina on Wheels" came up. An amendment was adopted striking out the appropriation and providing that there be no expense to the state. The bill then passed.

To make it a misdemeanor for any person not duly licensed to perform the marriage ceremony.

Repealing the act forbidding fishing with Dutch nets in Pamlico and Tar rivers.

The bill to make \$5,000 additional appropriation to the university for a water supply and protection against fire was taken up.

Mr. Dockery read the report of the joint committee which visited the university. The report showed the property to be worth \$500,000; that the income does not meet expenses, the deficit last year being \$650, and pays a high tribute to the conduct of the 400 students and the quality of their work.

Mr. Dockery spoke in support of the bill, saying the sum recommended was the bottom amount to enable the university to hold its present position. He pleaded for increased appropriations to common schools and the university. It was the purpose and plan to create a university system, to make all the links in the chain stronger than they are now; that the committees on education made this recommendation as a starter; that the increase of appropriation for higher education would be very small, not over \$5,000; that the committee had under consideration a measure to greatly develop the common schools. He said the committee had conferred with the state treasurer and chairman of the finance committee and that both approve, and the state treasurer said today the state could well bear the increase.

Chairman Johnson, of the finance committee, said the committee made by this legislature for all purposes would be \$40,000 to \$50,000; less than those made two years ago; that of the special appropriations there would be \$100,000 and \$200,000 this year, against \$103,000 two years ago.

Mr. Bryan, of Chatham, attacked the bill, saying a lobby was here working for it; that Harry Skinner had been telegraphed for to come here from Washington; that Editor Bailey said he was a lobbyist.

Mr. Dockery said no lobbyist had been telegraphed for from Washington and demanded that Mr. Bryan prove it.

Mr. Bryan said the appropriation to the university was denounced by Methodists and Baptists.

Mr. Sutton, of Cumberland, said: "I deny this as far as the Methodists church is concerned."

Mr. Bryan said in 1885 there was an appropriation for the university, for the agricultural department of the university, but no such study was taught there. He declared all professional men here were for the bill, but that he represented the farmers. He said the members could not go home with their pockets full of money and defend themselves for voting for this bill.

Mr. Murphy asked him what he meant by political money and Mr. Bryan said "per diem." He said the bill was the most diabolical class legislation he ever knew; that he wanted to return to his constituents with a clear record.

Mr. Brown said it seemed to him Mr. Bryan wanted to get the only and pay no attention to the needs of the state.

Mr. Dockery told Mr. Bryan the tax rate for the common schools had been increased 2 cents and this would raise \$50,000.

Mr. Lusk asked Mr. Bryan if the committee had not reported the increase favorably.

Mr. Ward asked Mr. Bryan if he had not introduced the act himself.

Mr. Bryan admitted he had. He said he did not know the increase was in the bill.

Mr. Lusk said that his ignorance was amazing and he wanted to know whether Mr. Bryan endorsed the increase.

Mr. Bryan then attacked the professional men who were speaking here today for this bill. He said he was backed by the people of Chatham; that he opposed the appropriation whatever to the university.

Mr. Lusk said he was glad to see Mr. Bryan taking the stand he did; that he always took the opposite side from Mr. Bryan because he then felt sure he was right.

Mr. Bryan raised a great laugh by cracking out: "How were you on the senatorial election?"

Mr. Lusk retorted by saying: "Where were you? Were you with me?"

"No you were with me," said Mr. Bryan.

Mr. Lusk then asked Mr. Bryan where his party was on this question, if it had not tabooed him and kicked him out of its caucus, thus causing a big laugh at Mr. Bryan's expense. (Bryan is a populist bolter.) Mr. Lusk

then spoke ably and earnestly in support of the bill, saying the republican party was the party of education. He ridiculed Mr. Bryan's statement that the university was the rich man's school and said there were 140 poor boys there who would not be at college were it not for the aid they got.

He said the people had approved the action of the legislature two years ago in increasing the appropriations to all institutions. He said he recollected two years ago when Mr. Bryan tried to sneak through a "little bill" and that he had made inquiry which led to the revelation that it was a bill to take away all appropriation to the university; that he recollected the occurrence distinctly; that Mr. Bryan said it was a "little bill."

Mr. Bryan said he was merely joking with Representative McCall, that he did not say a "little bill," that Mr. Lusk got his idea from the democratic newspapers.

Mr. Lusk said he knew the facts. Messrs. Petree, Duffy and McKenzie said Mr. Lusk described the occurrence exactly.

Mr. Bryan then said he wanted to get the bill referred to a committee.

Mr. Petree said Mr. Bryan said he wanted to vote for the bill taken up.

Mr. Bryan subsided after this clinching testimony against him.

Mr. Lusk continued his argument and said the state needed wise men, not fools (great laughter); that there were plenty of these and that they can go over into Chatham; that Mr. Bryan wanted to close the doors of the university.

Young, colored republican, said he usually agreed with Mr. Bryan, but this time he did not and he rebuked Mr. Bryan for his allusion to persons with salaries being in the lobby and said the people had the right to be here to look after any bill affecting their interests. He said: "Educate the white boys and girls and for God's sake educate the colored boys and girls." Two years ago he defended the grand old university and the people had sent him back here and he wanted to vote for the bill. (His remarks proved his course. He would with great voice be heartily applauded.)

Mr. Parker, of Wayne, spoke in opposition to the bill, saying he favored a direct appropriation to common schools of \$100,000 and asked what had become of the bill to make that appropriation.

Messrs. Dockery and Nelson said the sub-committee had yesterday reported on it.

Mr. Dockery said this bill was legislation for the classes against the masses and he was unwilling to vote any money to higher schools until the common schools were provided for amply, and the present action against the masses was deferred until the direct appropriation bill was reported to the house.

Mr. Dockery called the previous question. It was ordered and Mr. Bryan, of Chatham, demanded the yeas and nays.

Mr. Lusk said: "We are all proud to go on record."

There was much explaining of votes. The vote was—yeas, 76; nays, 23.

It was stated that there is \$195,000 in the treasury belonging to the board of education.

The bill to appropriate \$12,500 additional for the state normal and industrial school next came up.

Mr. Dockery said the same committee made this report; that it was unanimous; that in the senate only one vote was cast against the bill; that all recognized the needs of the school.

The bill passed by an overwhelming vote.

## NIGHT SESSION.

The house met at 7:30 o'clock and took up the calendar. Bills passed as follows:

Incorporating the Newbern Fire Insurance Company.

To fix "New Bern" as the proper way of spelling the name of that city.

To allow Cumberland county to levy a special tax.

To make a properly verified statement of all property against the state of correctness.

To allow Lumberton to issue bonds.

To incorporate the Harnett Central Railway Company.

To work Bladen county's roads by taxation.

To amend the charter of Dunn.

To amend the charter of Elizabeth City.

To provide footways in Sampson county.

To incorporate Maysville, Jones county.

For the relief of the commissioners of Pender county.

To provide for the erection of a school building for the North Carolina school for the deaf and dumb, carrying \$20,000 appropriation, passed its second reading and was recommitted to the finance committee.

For the relief of the estate of ex-Treasurer Beamon, of Sampson county, to incorporate the trustees of St. Mary's school at Raleigh.

To amend the charter of St. Augustine's school (colored) at Raleigh.

To amend the charter of Carthage.

To incorporate the Carolina Railway Company, to be operated by steam or electricity from Rutherford, then via the Hendersonville line.

## SENATE.

Raleigh, N. C., February 26.—Bills and resolutions were introduced as follows:

By Senator Utley, to amend the Code so as to allow women to vote in local option elections; also to forbid the giving of rewards to any employee of the present general assembly out of the treasury.

By Senator Whedbee, to regulate the

price of illuminating gas.

By Senator Maulsby, to incorporate the Lumber River Company and the town of Haley, in Columbus county.

The hour for the special order having arrived, Senator McCaskey made a motion that the special committee appointed on the memorial of the president and directors of the North Carolina railroad relative to the lease make a report.

Senator Grant, chairman of the committee, sent forward the report, reporting it being that after careful consideration, they had arrived at the conclusion, from examination of various witnesses, that there was no suspicion of fraud or intimidation of corruption on the part of any one in the matter of the lease of the North Carolina railroad to the Southern in 1895.

Then Senator Grant sent forward his substitute bill, which was published today.

The gist of the minority report was that they could not concur in the majority report because the committee would not summons and examine ex-Governor Carr, A. B. Andrews and R. C. Hoffman; that the people want the truth and nothing but the truth, and they could not get it unless the parties above named were examined; that Director Maxwell had said that Hoffman said he could not bid on the road, six years before the first lease expired, because the Southern would run the road down. Therefore the minority recommended that the substitute do not, but that the original bill do pass.

Senator McCaskey said he was unwilling to vote for the substitute of the majority; that when the lease of the road was discussed in the newspapers in this state as to its desirability, he was then opposed to it, and is present opposed to the lease. He did not think that the state had been benefited by it. He knew better terms could have been made. To lease it for ninety-nine years was equal to a sale.

Senator Grant favored the substitute. He thought it a good bargain. The state had made, he thought, in ten years improvements and betterments would aggregate an increase of 10 per cent. That he was afraid if the lease was annulled that before long a short line would be built and the North Carolina railroad would be thrown back on the state, and it would never be made a paying line again.

Senator Anderson said a petition has been handed him from the citizens of his county, men of all classes and political parties, asking him to work, vote and use his influence to defeat the bill seeking to ann